

30 July 1984

Dear Mom and Dad,

It certainly was an honor to get letters from two distinguished correspondents on the same day! The word processor makes writing letters a cinch and I'm sure you will use yours a lot. Mom, I glad you enjoyed (most of) Oliver Twist. Too much reading is impossible; go to the library and get another novel!

The weatherman has been predicting rain for several days but so far it has remained cloudy and quite cool (mid-70's) for this time of year. We took advantage of the temperature to go on an 11 mile run yesterday from the airport to Hains Pt and back. Later, I made banana-bran muffins which we enjoyed for brunch along with a local canteloupe obtained from a corner vendor.

On Saturday we drove into town and visited the National Gallery of Art. There is a current exhibit on Orientalist paintings which reflect the interest of 18th century painters with the Near East. We haven't seen the exhibit yet, but the Gallery is showing a series of films related to the oriental theme. Yesterday we saw "Beau Geste" in the auditorium which we all were in for a Sunday lecture. The film, made in 1926, is silent and concerns three brothers (Ronald Coleman was the eldest, Beau) who all end up in the French Foreign Legion. A pianist accompanied the film with appropriate music and we enjoyed it very much. Perhaps Dad saw this movie when he was a young boy.

After the movie we walked to Georgetown (~ 1 hour) where we drank a beer in a restaurant overlooking the canal and then ate dinner at an Italian restaurant. Vickie ordered linguine with clams while I ate fettucine Bolognese. Last Monday we went to a talk at the National Museum of American Art. Then Vickie attended another lecture on Wednesday night and went to an Opera at Catholic University with Susan on Thursday. I went with her to an opera at the same auditorium last week. It was the "Tales of Hoffman"; a very unusual opera sung in English.

We haven't heard from Mike; please assure him he is welcome to stay at our place any time. I wish you could join us for our picnic and opening night at Wolftrap this evening.

Love,

Jim

PS

Sorry about the margin